

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/14551

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G03F7/20 G02B5/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G03F G02B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 969 327 A (CANON KK) 5 January 2000 (2000-01-05) paragraph '0156! - paragraph '0165!; figures 1,6,7	1-6,9, 24,25
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 017, no. 683 (E-1477), 15 December 1993 (1993-12-15) -& JP 05 234850 A (CANON INC), 10 September 1993 (1993-09-10) abstract; figures 1-12	1,2,24, 25
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 10, 31 August 1998 (1998-08-31) -& JP 10 125590 A (CANON INC), 15 May 1998 (1998-05-15) abstract; figures 1-4	1,24,25

-/-

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 April 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

20/04/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA*

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Daffner, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/14551

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2002, no. 11, 6 November 2002 (2002-11-06) - & JP 2002 203767 A (NIKON CORP), 19 July 2002 (2002-07-19) abstract; figure 3	1, 24, 25
A	US 6 639 696 B1 (NISHIO TOMONORI) 28 October 2003 (2003-10-28) abstract; figure 3	1-25

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/1455 1

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0969327	A	05-01-2000	JP 2000021718 A	21-01-2000
			JP 2000021721 A	21-01-2000
			JP 2000021722 A	21-01-2000
			JP 3296296 B2	24-06-2002
			JP 2000021762 A	21-01-2000
			EP 0969327 A2	05-01-2000
JP 05234850	A	10-09-1993	NONE	
JP 10125590	A	15-05-1998	NONE	
JP 2002203767	A	19-07-2002	NONE	
US 6639696	B1	28-10-2003	JP 2000069234 A	03-03-2000